

**Remarks**

Entry of the following response, as well as reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of record, is respectfully requested.

**Summary of Status of Amendment and Office Action**

In the present amendment, claims 13, 14 and 23 are cancelled, claims 8, 15 and 19 are amended, and no claim is added. Therefore, claims 8-12, 15-22 and 24-26 remain pending in the application.

The subject matter of dependent claim 13 has been incorporated into independent claim 8. Claims 15 and 19 are amended to maintain correct dependency in view of the cancellation of claim 14.

All claim cancellations made herein are without disclaimer or prejudice as to the recited subject matter. Applicants expressly reserve the right to submit claims directed to any canceled subject matter, e.g., in a continuation or other application.

In the Final Office Action dated September 19, 2008, claims 13-15 and 18-26 are deemed allowable, but are objected to as depending from rejected base claims. Claims 8-12, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as obvious in view of Fahrigh et al. (WO 96/23506, English translation).

**Response to Objections to Claims 13-15 and 18-26 and Indication of Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants again thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 13-15 and 18-26 recite patentable subject matter. While Applicants do not agree with the rejections of record, the claims are amended herein in order to obtain allowance of claims directed to subject matter indicated to be allowable.

Claim 8 is now amended to substantially include the subject matter of claim 13. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8, the sole pending independent claim, recites subject matter that that Final Office Action indicated to be allowable.

The remaining claims depend directly or indirectly from claim 8. Moreover, each dependent claim also recites subject matter that is believed to be allowable over the art and rejections of record. As such, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims should also be considered allowable.

**Conclusion**

For the reasons advanced above, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims patentably define Applicants' invention. Allowance of the application with an early mailing date of the Notices of Allowance and Allowability is therefore respectfully requested.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

Rudolf FAHRIG et al.

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Neil F. Greenblum  
Reg. No. 28,394

# 42,357

October 30, 2008  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191